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Apple IIGS Connectors: Serial Port Pinouts and Description

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Security: Everyone

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The serial port pinouts are as follows:
(Circular 8 Female on system end)

- 1 - HSKo
- 2 - HSKi
- 3 - TxD-
- 4 - Signal GND
- 5 - RxD-
- 6 - TxD+
- 7 - GPi
- 8 - RxD+

The Apple IIGS has two serial ports that can substitute for slots 1 and 2. You can choose to use either internal slot 1 or 2 or external port 1 or 2 through the control panel. The built-in port can operate while there is a peripheral card plugged into the corresponding slot, but the port and the card cannot operate at the same time.

The communication hardware are 2 channel SCC (Zilog 8530) and RS-422 driver IC's. The ports emulate the Super Serial Card firmware. Normally the ports are configured so that port 1 is the printer port and port 2 is the modem port. Via the control panel, you can turn one of the two ports into the AppleTalk connection.

Even though the same commands are used in the Apple IIGS serial port firmware as the Super Serial Card firmware, some existing programs using these ports will not be compatible because some of the programs (usually communication programs) bypass the firmware commands and access the hardware directly. The new communications chip in the Apple IIGS doesn't work with the programs that are hard coded for the 6551 chip on the SSC.

Apple Technical Communications

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